

## Message Text

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73 S

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 SS-15 SSO-00 CCO-00 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SAM-01 SAB-01 OMB-01 IO-10 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /062 W

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O R 172330Z MAR 75 ZFF-6

FM USDEL ASWAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0170

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USINFO WAHDC

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY RIYADH

UNCLAS USDEL ASWAN 0211

SECTO 343

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HRNEY A.)

SUBJECT: PRESS BRIEFING BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ANDERSON  
AND EGYPTIAN SPOKESMAN BASHIR FOLLOWING MARCH 17, 1975,  
EVENING MEETING IN ASWAN BETWEEN SECRETARY KISSINGER AND  
PRESIDENT SADAT.

REF: STATE 24911

1. SUBJECT BRIEFING FOLLOWS: QUOTE

2. AMBASSADOR ANDERSON: AS WAS THE CASE THE OTHER NIGHT  
FOLLOWING A PREVIOUS MEETING BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND  
SECRETARY KISSINGER, AMBASSADOR BASHIR AND I WERE BRIEFED  
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BY THE PRINCIPALS. THE MEETING TONIGHT BEGAN AT 7:00 PM,

FINISHED ABOUT 8:45 PM. THE PRINCIPALS ON EACH SIDE WERE:  
ON THE EGYPTIAN SIDE PRESIDENT SADAT, FOREIGN MINISTER  
FAHMY AND MINISTER OF WAR GAMASY, AND ON THE AMERICAN SIDE  
SECRETARY KISSINGER, AMBASSADOR EILTS AND UNDER SECRETARY  
SISCO. THE BREAKDOWN OF THE MEETING: THE FIRST HOUR THE  
TWO TEAMS MET, THE LAST 45 MINUTES THE PRESIDENT MET ALONE  
WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER. THE TWO SIDES WILL MEET TOMORROW  
MORNING, PROBABLY AROUND 11:00 A.M. AMBASSADOR BASHIR  
WANTED TO COMMENT TO YOU ABOUT WHAT THE EGYPTIAN SIDE IS  
DOING NOW, AND THEN I WILL HAVE ONE MORE COMMENT.

3. AMBASSADOR BASHIR: THE PRESIDENT WILL HAVE A WORKING  
DINNER WITH FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY AND WAR MINISTER GAMASY.  
MR. KISSINGER PRESENTED THE ISRAELIS' SPECIFIC IDEAS AND THE  
PRESIDENT AND THE EGYPTIAN TEAM WILL BE STUDYING THEM  
TONIGHT. TOMORROW THEY ARE EXPECTING TO GIVE MR. KISSINGER  
AND HIS TEAM THE EGYPTIAN RESPONSE TO THESE IDEAS. THE GENERAL  
MOOD OF THE TALKS WAS SERIOUS AND WE FEEL THAT WE NEED SERIOUS  
AND HARD WORK TO TACKLE THE ISSUES PRESENTED. THANK YOU.

4. ANDERSON: THE AMBASSADOR COVERED THE ONE OR TWO POINTS  
I WAS GOING TO COVER. THAT WAS THE SPECIFIC ISRAELI IDEAS  
BEING PRESENTED BY DR. KISSINGER, BECAUSE I HAD OMITTED THAT  
EARLIER.

5. QUESTION: COULD EITHER OF YOU COMMENT ABOUT  
THE RELATIVE SHORTNESS OF THE MEETING ITSELF, THE HOUR AND  
FORTY MINUTES VERSUS THE NEARLY THREE HOUR MEETINGS THAT  
WERE HELD PREVIOUSLY? IS THERE ANY SIGNIFICANCE IN THE  
RELATIVE BREVITY OF TONIGHT'S TALKS?

6. ANSWER: ANDERSON: I ATTACH NO PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE TO  
THE RELATIVE BREVITY OF TONIGHT'S TALKS. THE SECRETARY,  
AS I SAID EARLIER, HAD SUFFICIENT TIME TO PRESENT THE SPECIFIC  
IDEAS OF THE ISRAELIS, AND NOW, AS AMBASSADOR BASHIR SAID,  
THE EGYPTIAN SIDE WILL BE STUDYING THESE IDEAS. AFTER ALL,  
THE TWO SIDES ARE GOING TO BE MEETING TOMORROW MORNING  
AGAIN SO THERE WILL BE PLENTY OF TIME FOR FURTHER TALKS.

7. QUESTION: AMBASSADOR BASHIR, COULD YOU SAY IF THERE  
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IS ANY INITIAL EGYPTIAN REACTION AT ALL, EVEN IN TERMS OF MOOD?

8. ANSWER: AMBASSADOR BASHIR: I JUST WANTED TO ADD THAT THE  
BREVITY COMES FROM THE FACT THAT MR. KISSINGER WAS PRESENTING  
THE ISRAELIS' SPECIFIC IDEAS AND WE FEEL THAT THESE MATTERS  
ARE SERIOUS. WE NEED A LOT OF HARD WORK TO TACKLE THESE  
ISSUES. TOMORROW THE EGYPTIAN TEAM WILL BE PRESENTING, IN  
THE MORNING, THE EGYPTIAN RESPONSE TO THESE SPECIFIC IDEAS.

9. QUESTION: DID YOU SAY YOU THOUGHT THE ISRAELI IDEAS WERE SERIOUS? WE CAN'T HEAR YOU TOO WELL.

10. ANSWER: AMBASSADOR BASHIR: THE TALKS INDICATED WE WILL NEED SERIOUS AND HARD WORK TO TACKLE THESE ISSUES.

11. QUESTION: WHAT ABOUT THE ISRAELI IDEAS, HOW DID THEY STRIKE YOU?

12. ANSWER: AMBASSADOR BASHIR: WE WILL KNOW MORE ABOUT THAT TOMORROW.

13. QUESTION: DO YOU THINK THE ATMOSPHERE IN ISRAEL IN THE LAST DAY OR SO IS REFLECTED IN WHAT DR. KISSINGER IS PRESENTING? DO YOU GET ANY KIND OF REACTION LIKE THAT?

14. ANSWER: AMBASADOR BASHIR: I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE ISRAELI REACTION, I HOPE THEY ARE FORTHCOMING TOWARDS PEACE, AND I HOPE THAT WE FEEL FROM THEM AND SEE SIGNS THAT THEY ARE WILLING TO COME TO PEACE WITH EGYPT AND THE OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES ON ALL FRONTS.

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KISSINGER

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